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NECROLOGY

WILLIAM HENRY WALMSLEY

(*Born October 12th, 1830—Died October 22nd, 1905.*)

W. H. Walmsley was descended from Thomas and Elizabeth Trotter Walmsley, who came from Settle, Yorkshire, England, at the time of William Penn's first visit to America and purchased land on the Neshaminy Creek, Bucks Co., Pennsylvania.

William Henry, the eldest son, was born October 12th, 1830, at Byberry, Bucks Co., Pa. He was educated at Westtown Boarding School. While there he became much interested in the study of Botany and other science; But at the age of eighteen he was obliged to leave school abruptly on account of the death of his father—to begin his business career in the wholesale dry goods house of Barcroft and Beaver in Philadelphia. On November 23d, 1854, he married Annie M. Bunting, daughter of Jacob Parker Bunting (Alderman of New York City). Being a member of the Society of Friends—he was read "out of meeting" for daring to wed outside of the Sect:—later, the society wanted to reinstate him to good standing, but as he had joined the Church wherein his wife worshipped, he preferred to remain an Episcopalian.

In Providence, R. I., about 1865, he became interested in the study of the microscope and the preparation and mounting of slides, soon taking high rank with such men as Dr. J. G. Hunt. He was especially successful in making slides of arranged diatoms, insects and vegetable tissues.

His great love and success in the study of *Fungi* was manifested in the discovery and classification of at least 1500 varieties, within walking distance of Capon Springs, Virginia. He was engaged at the time of his death with Drs. Macfarlane and Harshberger in the preparation of a work on Relation of *Rag Weed* to *Hay Fever*, and also had all the material ready to write a book on the *Mushroom*.



WILLIAM H. WALMSLEY

In 1870 he became a partner in the firm of James W. Queen & Co., of Philadelphia, giving his entire attention to the Microscopical Department. In 1877, he associated himself with R. & J. Beck of London, England; and later, upon the death of the Becks, he carried on the American branch under his own name for many years.

In addition to inventing many devices and improvements to the microscope and its accessories, he was an enthusiast in photography and did much to perfect and simplify former methods, and great credit is due him for his patience, perseverance and skill, especially in the field of photo-micrography. He was also much interested in the development of acetylene gas for use in photo-micrography and the manufacture of generators, and a special form of burner for using the gas.

Later, he was connected with the Pepper Laboratory of the University of Pennsylvania. Under his personal supervision was installed and equipped one of the finest outfits of photo-micrographic apparatus, everything of the latest type for research work.

In 1902, he wrote *The A. B. C. of Photo-Micrography*, a practical guide for beginners which was very favorably received and is used extensively, not only in America and Europe, but all over the world where the English language is used.

He held membership in the following societies: American Microscopical, of which he was a charter member; a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; life member of The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia; Royal Microscopical Society of England; Botanical Society of the University of Pennsylvania; Honorary member of the Microscopical Societies of Chicago and San Francisco; and of the Photographic Society of Philadelphia.

The career of William Henry Walmsley presents a personality and character worthy of remembrance, devoted to his home and to his work; honorable, conscientious, kindly and sympathetic, always ready and willing to extend a helping hand; so genial and so cordial, that he endeared himself to the hearts of his many friends.

J. FREDERICK HERBERT, M. D